

the SIGHT CENTER

A Service of the Toledo Society for the Blind
1819 Canton Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43624
419/241-1183



Shaded area indicates membership in United Way

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Success Story

One of Terrance Jankowski's eyes received a corneal transplant.



Grafted Tissue Made Career Possible, Musician Beleives

Terrance Jankowski is one of hundreds of area people who can testify to the value of corneal transplants. At age 25, his is a story of surgical success, academic and professional achievement.

But it has not been easy. He is convinced that he could not have realized his ambition of a career in music without the transplant.

A routine eye test during his senior year at Rogers High School indicated that both corneas were diseased.

He was referred to Dr. Richard Torchia, a Toledo ophthalmologist, who diagnosed the condition as keratoconus, a protrusion and downward displacement of the cornea.

Although it affected both eyes, it was much worse in the right eye, Mr. Jankowski said.

Following graduation from high school in 1980, he enrolled at Bowling Green State University as a music major, but his sight continued to deteriorate.

"Driving, especially at night, became very difficult," he recalled.

Colors grew so distorted that he could not see a picture. Reading sheet music was virtually impossible.

"I could not see the big 'E' on the eye chart," he said. He was legally blind.

Then in June, 1983, using a donor cornea obtained through the former Northwestern Ohio Lions Eye/Ear Bank, Dr. Torchia implanted healthy corneal tissue in Mr. Jankowski's right eye in an operation at Flower Memorial Hospital, Sylvania. (Administration of the Lions Eye/Ear Bank was taken over by MCO early this year.)

"Both eyes were kept covered with bandages for 24 hours," Mr. Jankowski said. "I was totally blind."

But finally, after 4 years, things began to improve for him.

"When I got home from the hospital," he recalled, "I sat on the living room couch and looked out the window."

"I could actually see the leaves on the trees. That was the first noticeable difference."

But the fight to regain his sight wasn't over. A month later, he said, his body began rejecting the transplant.

"I woke up one morning and it was as though I were looking through a cloud — like a foggy day, when you go outside."

See *Graft*, Page 5

Corneal Transplants Still Play Prime Role in Sight Restoration

Corneal transplants no longer draw the public attention they once did. Headlines in that scientific field now go to the more dramatic transplants of major organs.

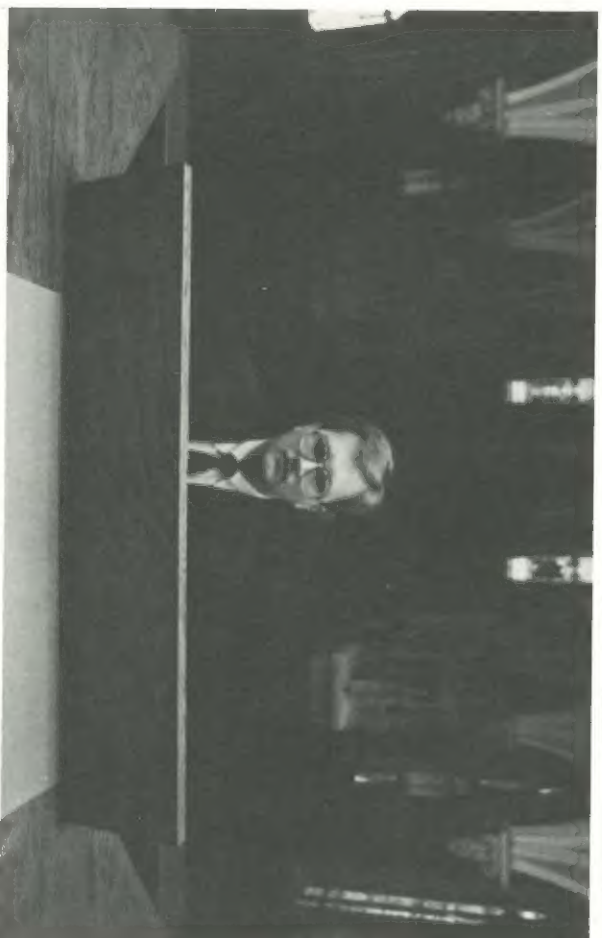
But the need for donated eyes remains important, professionals emphasize.

It was the knowledge acquired in the efforts to transplant corneal tissue that paved the way for much of today's success in transplanting major organs.

Attempts to transplant human tissue go back nearly 4,000 years, when Hindu physicians reported successful grafts of skin from a patient's own body to re-create noses that had been cut off, or to repair disfigured ear-lobes.

Corneal transplants using tissue from pig, rabbit and dog eyes were attempted in 1818 by an Austrian surgeon but failed, reportedly due to secondary infections.

The first successful corneal transplant (Keratoplasty) on record was performed in 1835 by a British army surgeon who transplanted corneal tissue from a dying gazelle into a pet gazelle that had been blinded in its only good eye.



The interior of St. Rose Church, Perrysburg, formed a backdrop for Terry Jankowski on a recent morning. Although he is employed full-time as organist at St. Ann Church, Fremont, he occasionally plays the organ at St. Rose for weddings or funerals.

Seventy years later, an Austrian physician, Dr. Eduard Zirm, performed the first successful human corneal transplant when he took tissue from the eyes of a child that had been removed after an accident and stitched it into both eyes of a workman, Alois Glogar.

Only one of the transplants "took," but the patient reportedly regained sight in that eye for the rest of his life.

Unlike other tissue, corneas are unique in their ability to obtain nourishment without vascular connections to the rest of the body. Existing in that self-contained state, they are cut off from the body's autoimmune system, which causes the body to reject tissue not its own.

The need for donor eyes today is greater than ever, according to Thomas Moore, president of the Eye Bank Association of America, Inc., (EBA), Washington, D.C., which has 91 member eye banks nationally. Scleral tissue, the white part of the eye, is also used in transplants, Mr. Moore added.

More than a quarter-million corneal transplants have been performed in this country since 1961.

About 30,000 are being done annually, Mr. Moore said. The waiting list is three months and 5,000 people long.

Another 7,500 eyes per year are needed to meet demand, including those needed for research, he added.

"Human eyes are necessary for further study of retinitis pigmentosa, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma and other diseases," he explained.

"Most of those conditions come with age. That's where the older donor is so critical."

Today's success rate is between 90 and 95 per cent, Mr. Moore said — a sharp rise from the 60 to 70 per cent of just 25 years ago.

He cited comprehensive screening techniques, improved eye-banking procedures that now permit storing of donor eyes for up to 10 days, and greatly improved operating room microscopes as the major reasons.

See *Transplant*, Page 4

New Trustees Join Board

Mary K. Hamilton, vice president of personal trusts for First National Bank of Toledo; ophthalmologist Jerald A. Bovino, M.D., of the St. Vincent Medical Center retina unit, and attorney Jay Lowenstein, a partner in the Toledo law firm of Cline, Cook and Weisenburger Co., have been elected to the Sight Center's board of trustees.

Dr. Bovino, immediate past president of the Northwest Ohio Ophthalmologic Society, replaces Dr. James G. Ravin, whose term expired. Dr. Bovino will serve a two-year term.

Mr. Lowenstein is immediate past president of the Toledo (Host) Lions Club. He replaces Edward G. Binkelman, Jr., whose term expired.

Ms. Hamilton, immediate past president of ZONTA Club of Toledo 1, replaces Evelyn Bartz, whose term also expired. She and Mr. Lowenstein were each elected for one-year terms.

Msgr. Michael Doyle

Monsignor Michael J. Doyle, 88, retired director of charities for the Toledo Catholic Diocese, died May 31 in Toledo Hospital. He had served as a Sight Center trustee from 1935 to 1957.

Although he devoted his lifetime to social service work, Monsignor Doyle always regarded the priesthood as his true vocation.

Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Toledo.

THE TOLEDO SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

The Sight Center Newsletter is published by The Toledo Society for the Blind, a United Way member agency in Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, and Henry Counties, Ohio, and Monroe County, Michigan.

Materials contained herein may be reprinted providing credit is given.

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The Sign Post

Toledoan Betty Epstein was awarded special recognition in May by the National Braille Association for her 24 years of service as either director or an officer of NBAs board of trustees. She was also saluted for her pioneer work in the field of braille illustrations, where she developed and refined techniques that have resulted in the use of tactile maps and diagrams in textbooks for the blind throughout the world.

* * *

Four area residents were named to the Hadley School for the Blind's winter honor roll for academic achievement in correspondence studies completed through the Winnetka, IL, school. **Charles Killian**, Toledo, was cited for his studies in The Human Eye. Toledoan **Linda Nemire Payne**, a former sheltered workshop employee, was cited for her work in Spelling/Word Study. **Jo Payne**, Temperance, MI, was recognized for her work in Essentials of English, and **Ronald Nalepa**, Bedford Township, MI, was named for his studies in Introduction to Microcomputers.

* * *

Former Sight Center receptionist **Dawn Christensen** was recently awarded a gold figurine from Avon Products for achieving a 270 per cent sales increase in a year's time.

Her sales territory covers Springfield Township in Lucas County. She has been an Avon representative for five years.

Guide Dog's Death Linked to Thoughtless "Treat"

Sir:

Witless people who believe that they are being kind or generous when they give "people" food to a guide dog are guilty of a great disservice to those animals, and to those of us who must use guide dogs.

People have no business giving animals that belong to someone else *anything* unless they have the owner's permission, or know what the situation is with the dog.

In my case, my dog died after some well-meaning person threw bones—either chicken or pork—over the back fence into her run. One of those bones lodged cross-wise in her throat. The serious infection that developed activated a dormant virus in her body, and the virus killed her.

This dog was valued at approximately \$8,000. She was only two-and-a-half years old and was becoming

We Don't Sell Brooms

Criticism was levelled at the Sight Center again this summer by people who mistakenly believe that we are making telephone sales pitches to them. It is not true.

This agency has never used telephone calls to sell brooms, light bulbs or anything else, nor has it ever taken part in a telephone campaign to sell tickets to circuses, ice shows or similar events.

Understandable confusion arises when people receive telephone solicitations from anonymous callers who suggest that buying the merchandise or tickets they proffer will, in some roundabout fashion, "help the blind."

These emotional appeals are often accompanied by heavy sales pressure and, in some cases, offensive language.

An example of what sometimes happens took place last year when a Toledo woman who declined to buy the product being hawked was told, "Go to hell, and I hope you go blind."

She was rightfully angry. Although the matter was quickly straightened out when she called here to demand an accounting for this verbal abuse, it left a bad taste in everyone's mouth.

A similar problem surfaced this summer when the Toledo chapter of a national organization that uses the word "blind" in its title engaged an out-of-town firm to stage an ice show. While no offensive language was reported by people who called us, the doubt and mistrust that had been planted in their minds was evident. They had been solicited by professional sales people waging an intense campaign to sell tickets at \$6 each. None of that money went to the Sight Center. The only organization that has ever conducted a telephone campaign on the Sight Center's behalf, and with our knowledge and consent, is the Toledo (Host) Lions Club.

The Sight Center is **not** Blind Products of Toledo, 1959 Princeton Drive, Toledo.

It is **not** the National Federation of the Blind.

It is **not** the American Council of the Blind.

It is **not** the American Foundation for the Blind.

It is **not** the National Society to Prevent Blindness.

It is **not** the Ohio Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired.

It is **not** the United States Association of Blind Athletes, a national organization that promotes physical competition by blind athletes. The Sight Center is the official sponsor of USABAs Toledo Chapter, but it does not provide financing for that chapter or the national, and receives no financing from either.

THE SIGHT CENTER IS the local, charitable, non-profit provider of direct services to the blind and visually impaired in 21 northwest Ohio and two southeast Michigan counties. We receive much of our funding from the United Way of Greater Toledo (Lucas, Wood, Ottawa and part of eastern Fulton County), the Henry County United Way, and the Monroe County, Michigan, United Way. Our application for membership in the Sandusky County United Way program was recently approved. An application with the Erie County United Way is pending.

None of the other organizations listed is a member of a United Way program. Each has its own reason for existence; each has its own financing methods.

We greatly appreciate people who are thinking in terms of supporting the Sight Center's services. If you receive telephone solicitations and are in doubt, call us. We *do* need your support.

ing a very good guide dog. I am totally blind; a dog is an asset to me, and it takes time to get another dog, to say nothing of the expense involved—not to me, but to organizations such as the Lions Clubs that sponsor the dog and its blind owner.

The unknowing public, to put it gently, should use a little bit of common sense and courtesy, and discuss the giving of treats to any animal with its owner to learn whether the animal is compatible with that treat. Actually, a veterinarian will tell you that dogs should not get animal bones of any kind at any time. But people have had the misconception for years that bones are suitable food for dogs.

They are not. Bones are the worst possible things to give them. Dogs like dog food, and do well on it. Dog food is processed in such a way that dogs get all of the vitamins, minerals,

and other nutrients they need. They do not need "people" food, which is very bad for their digestive and cardiovascular systems; that kind of food puts too much fat and cholesterol in them, and kills them off at an earlier age than if they had been treated right.

I have been without my guide dog for three months now. I'll be getting another one eventually. Being totally blind, I need and rely on it for safe travel. I hope that people—not just in my neighborhood, but everywhere—will wake up and take heed of what is really a very reasonable request: don't ever give any food to someone's guide dog in any way, shape or form, and definitely never, ever, any animal bones.

James Huff
Toledo, Ohio

What Blind People Do:

In the Good Old Summer Time

Cookouts



Ron Pompei's extraction is 100 per cent Italian, but it was an All-American cookout he and wife Maureen created: steaks marinated in Ron's own sauce, baked potatoes, fresh vegetables from their garden, and a smooth, red California wine.

Bicycling



When Ron Kull feels like taking a break from daily chores, he and neighbor Betty Nolan often take out his tandem bike for a ride along country roads near his Newport, MI, farm.

For the benefit of anyone who wonders how blind people spend these hot summer months, the answer is that they travel, play or work, just as sighted people do... but with their own adaptive variations.

Ron Kull, of Newport, MI, totally blind from glaucoma, and **Holland, OH**, resident **Dawn Christensen**, blind from retinitis pigmentosa (RP), both ride their tandem bicycles regularly. Ron also refinishes furniture, and late every summer, he and his father make wine from the Concord grapes they've picked from their own vines.

Although blind since birth, 12-year-old **Justin Fegel** enjoys riding his bike alone now and then in his Bucyrus, OH, neighborhood.

Sanduskian Jodi Myers, whose sight loss from diabetic retinopathy is complete, enjoys swimming and water-skiing. Getting to the water is no problem; Lake Erie is only about 100 yards from her front door. Jody also works with weights.

Dr. Doug Austin, a member of the Sight Center's board of trustees whose RP blindness is total, is another avid water skier, spending every possible weekend at the Austin cottage on Carpenter Lake in Michigan.

For Margie Lacy, of rural Oak Harbor, gardening is both practical and recreational. Margie, who also has RP, does it all — preparing the soil, staking out the 100-foot rows (using cord for guidelines), planting seeds, weeding by hand and cultivating between rows with the rototiller, harvesting everything as it matures, and canning or freezing the vegetables she'll use over the winter.

Sight Center staffers **Ron and Maureen Pompei**, both legally blind, enjoy outdoor cooking. Like Margie Lacy, they're dedicated vegetable and flower gardeners. Ron also bowls; Maureen enjoys back-packing and white-water rafting.

Toledoan **Bryan Belin** will go fishing anywhere, any time. RP doesn't slow him down in handling tackle, baiting hooks, removing the fish, and cleaning and cooking them. And if the weather's not right for fishing, Bryan's a formidable chess player.

Jo Payne, Temperance, MI, is a gifted pianist who has held a number of recitals. She's also continuing her work this summer toward an associate of commerce degree at Monroe County Community College. Jo has the promise of a job in that field with a Detroit firm after graduation.

Blind entertainer **Jim Huff**, who performs professionally as "The Amazing Jimmie Lee," an illusionist act that he sometimes varies by making balloon sculptures, has a host of recreational pursuits. Jim swims, plays golf, enjoys walleye fishing, bowls, and has recently declared his intention to resume roller-skating — a sport he excelled in before losing his sight.

Former Sight Center bookkeeper **Ed Porche**, who now holds a similar position with Merit Industries, is a regular bowler.

Lois Henning, of North Toledo, is a dedicated horticulturist despite increasing sight loss from retinal degeneration.

When **Jon Whitaker** was a student at DeVilbiss High School he wrestled on the varsity squad despite total blindness. Since joining the United States Association of Blind Athletes, he runs dashes and middle distance events.

Fellow USABA member **Norman Rutherford** is well-known for his distance running, but with Norm, it's not just a summer activity; he keeps it up year-round.

Toledoan **Kevin Perrine**, another USABA member, swims and wrestles.

It's a sure bet that we've overlooked more than one sight-handicapped person who enjoys summer activities. If you're one of them, please let us know.

Fifteen-Month Job Search Turns Up Nothing

"The help-wanted ads in the daily papers list many openings for computer programmers," David Carpenter remarked.

"I hold an associate degree in computer programming, but I can't land a job in that field—and it isn't for lack of trying."

Mr. Carpenter has been blind since he was 18 months old, when he developed retinoblastoma (eye cancer), necessitating surgical removal of both eyes.

The problem confronting him is familiar to legions of blind people who want to work and are qualified on the basis of education, experience, or both. Mr. Carpenter, 33, is married and

has a 10-year-old son. Toledo is his home, but he will relocate if necessary to land a job.

He received his degree from Owens Technical College in June, 1986, and has been hunting for an entry-level programmer's position since.

Interviews have been few and far between, he said.

He is registered with the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, the Ohio Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired, and the Private Industry Council.

The latter organization will pay one-half of his first six months' salary. The employer, using the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit, would also be entitled to

a 40 per cent tax credit on \$6,000 of that first-year salary—\$2,400.

"If a beginning rate for an entry-level programmer is \$8 an hour, that comes out to a salary of \$16,640, based on a 40-hour work week," he said.

Combining the two incentives would reduce the employer's first-year salary cost to \$10,080.

White Cane Day Oct. 15

Wednesday, October 15, has been designated National White Cane Day by proclamation of President Ronald Reagan. The day is set aside to heighten public awareness of the cane as a travel tool and a symbol of independence for blind people.

Fishing



Bryan Belin didn't claim that the yellow perch he took out of Lake Erie one blistering hot day in July were whoppers—but they tasted excellent when filleted and tried, he said.

Gardening



The healthy, productive vines on Margie Lacy's tomato plants give proof of her gardening artistry, but they're just a small part of the 29 different kinds of vegetables, fruit and berries she planted this year.

Summer School



Concentration was etched into Jo Payne's face during this summer study session at Monroe County Community College Extension Center South, Temperance, MI. Judith Pfeiffer, the extension center's director, observed her work closely.

River Rally Pumps Bonus Dollars into O&M, Eyeglass Budgets

The Sight Center's cash position grew \$13,421 healthier July 17, thanks to the efforts of 311 volunteers and sponsors who turned out to ensure success for the Center's Rally by the River in downtown Toledo's Promenade Park.

With fate smiling in the form of fair skies and balmy temperatures, thirsty rally-goers quaffed 174 barrels—25,237 cups—of draft beer during the three-hour event.

It marked the first time the Center has hosted one of the popular Friday evening beer bashes since they began in 1982.

Hosts are chosen by lottery. The Center will become eligible for the drawing again in 1989.

"Receipts were smaller than we hoped for," said Paul Noel, controller.

"But despite all the work, I'd do it again tomorrow if we could. We'll take \$13,000 anytime we can have it."

The money will be used to provide additional orientation and mobility instruction, and to pay for eyeglasses for people who cannot afford them.

WTOL-TV Channel 11, Toledo, and WRON 93Q Radio, Perrysburg, were the agency's sponsors, with both publicizing the rally beforehand.

Channel 11 donated the limited-edition T-shirts given to each volunteer. WRON paid for musical entertainment provided by "Loved by Millions," a Toledo-area rock group.

Volunteers also received Sight Center baseball caps. They included members of the Toledo (Host) Lions and Maumee Lions Clubs, Telephone Pioneers of America, Owens Technical College, Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co., Lucas County auditor's office, Kidder, Peabody & Company, Inc., Paine Webber, Inc., and the Zychowicz Sausage Factory, Maumee.

T-shirts are on sale at the Center for \$8 each. Channel 11 has designated all profit from their sales to the Sight Center.

Barry Brandt, Toledo Lions Club president, and Sight Center trustee James Hackley, another Lion, served as rally co-chairmen.



Telephone Pioneer Al Maeder, right, and wife Ruth served as roving ticket-sellers, accommodating buyers where they found them to help keep the waiting lines short.



Not everyone came to relax in the shade. When "Loved by Millions," the popular Toledo rock group, tuned up and began playing, the more energetic party-ers moved toward the stage to romp and stomp to the music.

Production Line



Non-Stop production was the order from the sound of the opening horn at 4:30 p.m. until the 7:30 p.m. cut-off. Palma Wisniewski and Pam Croson, wearing dark glasses, saw action at beer wagon No. 2.

International Art Show Seeks Works of Blind Artists

Blind artists and others with physical disabilities are invited to display their works in an international exhibit at Pittsburgh, PA, next year.

The Harmarville International, a injured exhibition, will run from Oct. 28 to Nov. 18, 1988, according to a spokesman for the Foundation of Independent School Alumnae, founder of the Harmarville Rehabilitation Center in Pittsburgh.

Any artist over 18 with a physical disability is eligible. Categories will include painting (any medium), drawing, ceramics, sculpture, graphics, collage, fiber, photography, and poetry.

A minimum of \$3,000 in prize money will be awarded, the spokesman said, adding that the exhibit is not a fund-raising effort but an event designed to recognize the accomplishments of talented artists who are disabled.

Entries should be submitted in slide form and are due by May 18, 1988. For details and entry forms, contact:

1988 Harmarville International
Harmarville Rehabilitation Center
Box 11460, Guys Run Rd.
Pittsburg, PA 15238

Radio Broadcasts to Resume Sept. 21

"The Sight Center on the Air," a weekly half-hour radio program of news, interviews, music and topics of interest to the blind, will return to the air Monday, Sept. 21, at 6:30 p.m.

The program is broadcast over WAMP-FM (88.3 meg.), Scott High School's broadcast journalism station, which donates its facilities as a public service. Due to the station's low wattage (110 KW), it can usually be heard only within a 10-mile radius of the school.

Transplants (from Page 1)

"Screening includes thorough evaluation of the donor's medical and social history — 18 tests, in all — to be certain the donor did not have AIDS, hepatitis-B, or rabies," he said.

There are about 100 eye banks nationwide, including the former Northwest Ohio Lions Eye/Ear Bank at Medical College of Ohio in Toledo, an EBAA member. Administration of that bank has been taken over by MCO.

Exactly when the first corneal transplant was performed in northwest Ohio is uncertain.

A recent Sight Center survey indicated that the following area ophthalmologists perform corneal and/or scleral transplants:

Drs. Lawrence A. Brindorf, Robert J. Huss, Norman Johnson, Richard H. Koop, David W. Kozy, Jason Ofori, and Robert L. Willard, of Toledo, and Drs. ~~Charles E. Jackle~~ ~~Defiance~~, Kenneth M. Mondal, Galion, Bruce Newman, Bryan, Sujarithan Noparat, Defiance, and Carl D. Obenauf, Norwalk.

Drs. Edward J. Garvin and Rodney W. McCarthy, of Toledo, said they perform scleral transplants only.

Clouding of the cornea following removal of cataracts is the principal reason for most transplants, Mr. Moore said.

Corneal dystrophy — an inherited condition such as a cone-shaped, rather than spherical, cornea — is another major cause.

Cost, including surgeon's fee and hospital charges, ranges from \$3,500 to \$5,000, depending on where in the nation it is performed.

Education programs and new laws are increasing the supply of donor eyes, but many people are still reluctant to agree to removal, said Elizabeth Cummings, an administrative assistant with EBAA.

"Some are concerned because eyes are part of the face, and they fear that the face will be disfigured by their removal," she said. But care is taken to ensure that there is no disfigurement, she added.

"Then, too, eye contact is a highly personal form of communication. People find it much more difficult to donate a part of a loved one's body that they have seen, and perhaps loved or been inspired by, than they do an internal organ.

"There are also many people who believe in physical resurrection of the body. Some believe that when they are reborn, they will be blind if they have given away their eyes."

The problem is far more acute in other parts of the world. Ms. Cummings cited South America as an example.

"Even though there is an ample number of qualified surgeons, and excellent medical facilities — thanks largely to efforts by Lions International — religious convictions prevent

(Continue Next Page)

Transplants (from Page 4)

many people from donating eyes," she said.

Ohio and Michigan are two of 41 states that have enacted "required request" statutes requiring hospital personnel to ask survivors whether the dead person's eyes may be removed for possible transplanting, said Nina Roeske, coordinator of MCO's eye bank.

A recently-amended Ohio law also permits county coroners to remove corneas while performing autopsies for medical/legal reasons when they have no reason to believe that there is an objection by survivors, according to a spokesman for the Ohio State Coroners Association, Columbus.

Another Ohio law enables morticians to remove eyes when survivors have agreed to it.

Because eyes must be removed within six hours after death is pronounced (or the ventilator turned off, in cases where the patient has been pronounced brain dead), people intending to donate theirs should make that decision known beforehand, Ms. Roeske said.

Merely stating the intention in a will is useless unless the will is read immediately after the testator's death.

Findlay Man Places Second in Blind Chess Tournament

Joseph Kennedy, Ft. Wayne, IN, took top honors in the 1987 United States Blind Chess Championship Tournament at Findlay, OH, July 24-26.

He finished with a score of 4½-½, tying his final game with Clayton Walker, Waukegan, IL. Mr. Kennedy also won the tournament title in 1983 and 1985.

Findlay resident Glen Shelton finished second with a 4-1 score.

Third place ended in a tie between Kimball Sargent, N. Attleboro, MA, Henry Olynick, New York City, and Mr. Walker. All finished with scores of 3½-1½.

In all, seventeen players from around the nation took part, according to Nate Hampshire, of the Findlay Lions Club, which co-sponsored the event with the Findlay Chess Club. The only other northwest Ohio player was Dick McStraw, of Findlay.

Lions Clubs from Ohio District 13-A supported the tournament with cash contributions. Some also provided transportation for players who flew into Toledo Express Airport, Mr. Hampshire said.

Tim Just, Waukegan, IL, was tournament director.

OCTOBER 4-10, 1986

Has been declared National Employ the Handicapped Week by President Reagan.

Significant Dates

- 700 B.C.: Hindu physicians report successful grafting of human noses and earlobes.
 - 1818: Attempted transplanting of animal corneas into human eyes fails.
 - 1835: First successful transplant of corneal tissue from one animal's eyes to another's.
 - 1905: First successful human corneal transplant.
 - 1951: First successful human corneal transplant in Ohio.
 - 1954: First successful human kidney transplant.
 - 1957: First successful graft of one dog's head to another's.
 - 1967: First successful human heart transplant.
 - 1967: First successful human liver transplant.
 - 1969: First successful human pancreas transplant.
 - 1981: First successful human heart-lung transplant.
- (Sources: The American Council on Transplantation, Alexandria, VA; Eye Bank Association of America, Washington, D.C.; The Rebuilt Man, by Fred Winslofsky)

Graft (from Page 1)

Treatment to overcome the rejection — eye drops and injections — began at once. A month later, the eye began to improve, eventually returning to normal.

It also began rejecting the transplant a year later, but treatment again restored it to normal.

After earning a bachelor of arts degree at Bowling Green, he enrolled in the graduate program at Marshall University, Huntington, WV, where he was awarded his master's degree in music last June.

"I do not believe I could have done it without the transplant," he said firmly. "The capability of reading music was essential."

Now, four years after surgery, the eye functions perfectly. He has no difficulty reading sheet music or books, driving a car or doing other things sighted people do easily. His night vision is normal.

Last August 8, Terry Jankowski crowned his seven-year struggle by accepting full-time employment as organist at St. Ann Church, Fremont. "I would like to donate my own eyes when the time comes, but I don't think they could be used for transplants," he said.

Linda Pelagio Joins Sight Center Staff

Linda Pelagio, a native of Luzon Island in the Philippines, joined the Sight Center staff July 15 as a part-time rehabilitation teacher.

She formerly taught at the Montessori Children's House in Quezon City, Luzon, and worked with the Community Development Center at St. Paul College, Manila.

Ms. Pelagio holds a bachelor of science degree in social work from the Philippine Christian University, Manila.

Measuring Intelligence



Methods for measuring the intelligence of the blind by touch (haptic testing) were demonstrated by Toledo psychologist Sidney Jordan at a recent Sight Center staff meeting. As rehabilitation counselor Vicki Obee, wearing glasses, matched blocks of different shapes—one of a battery of 10 steps the procedure requires in order to arrive at the subject's IQ—rehabilitation teacher Helen Boduch followed along under his coaching. The haptic battery may also be used as a diagnostic tool, Mr. Jordan explained, since a poor performance on one test when other scores are high can indicate a learning disability. Educational specialist Mary Scheuer, left, observed.

Audio Description Is Planned for Six Rep Theatre Plays

The Toledo Repertoire Theatre will offer audio description for the Sunday evening performances of each of six plays scheduled for its 1987-88 season.

Audio description enables blind patrons to hear an offstage narrator describing sets, costumes, and action through a small electronic ear-piece. No wires are needed, so that listeners may sit where they choose.

The Toledo Council and the Life Member Club, Telephone Pioneers of America, is underwriting the cost of the service, according to Madge Levinson.

Plays and audio description dates are: Little Shop of Horrors, Sept. 20; The Foreigner, Nov. 8; A Christmas Carol, Dec. 13; Painting Churches, Feb. 7; My Three Angels, March 27; and Evita, June 5.

Holland Bike Tourists Wanted

A bicycle tour of Holland for blind or hearing-impaired tourists is being scheduled for Oct. 3-11, according to Jodi Myers, of Sandusky, OH.

Ms. Myers, a former Sight Center client who made a similar trip last April, said the \$1,500 price covers roundtrip air fare from New York to Amsterdam, hotel rooms, use of bicycles, a boat ride, T-shirts, breakfast each day and three dinners during the week.

Costs of other meals must be paid for by individual travelers, as must their travel costs to and from New York City. Participants may take their own tandem or single bicycles at no extra cost between New York and Amsterdam, or bicycles will be provided upon arrival in Holland, Ms. Myers said.

They are also encouraged to bring a sighted or hearing companion, but

Lions Slate Dec. 10 Christmas Party

one will be provided for those who cannot, she added.

For more information, call her at (419) 625-3758, or write to 637 Cedar Point Rd., Sandusky, OH 44870.

The Toledo (Host) Lions Club will hold its 62nd annual Christmas party for the blind Thursday, Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Gladioux I and II, Laskey Road west of Douglas Road, Toledo. Transportation will be provided for blind guests if they cannot arrange their own. A \$15 gift certificate redeemable in groceries will be given to each blind guest who makes a reservation and attends the party. Reservations may be made by calling the Sight Center, (419) 241-1183.

MACULAR DEGENERATION

Although little is known so far about the causes of and cures for diseases of the macula, scientists are exploring the possibility that long-term exposure to the damaging parts of sunlight may be a factor.

If you are receiving more than one copy of this Newsletter, or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact the Sight Center so that duplications may be deleted and new readers' names added.

New Roof



Workmen labored under a hot August sun to replace the badly-leaking roof that was laid when the Sight Center was built in 1956. The job, paid for with funds raised in last year's capital improvements campaign, was awarded to Seabloom Roofing and Sheet Metal Co., Toledo, which submitted the low bid of \$44,442.

Monroe, Sandusky County UW Programs Approve Membership

The Sight Center's applications for membership in the Sandusky County, Ohio, and Monroe County, Michigan, United Way programs have been approved by both organizations, a step expected to provide additional operating funds starting next year.

Initial funding of \$15,000 has been requested in Monroe County to cover 1988 services there, according to executive director Barry A. McEwen.

Funding from Sandusky County will begin in calendar 1989 unless this fall's United Way drive there is successful enough to allow a special allocation for 1988.

The Center has served residents of southeast Michigan for over 20 years, but received only limited financial

support in the form of small, individual contributions until last year, when a contract was negotiated with Lenawee County Michigan, public schools, Mr. McEwen said.

The contract provides for orientation and mobility instruction to sight-handicapped pupils.

The Center has been a member of the United Way of Greater Toledo (Lucas, Wood, Ottawa and eastern Fulton Counties) and its predecessor organizations since the agency was founded in 1923. It joined the Henry County, Ohio, United Way as a charter member in 1983.

An application for membership in the Erie County, Ohio, United Way is pending.

Christmas Cards on Sale

Six new selections of Christmas cards featuring religious or non-denominational themes, plus limited quantities of miscellaneous cards, are on sale at the Sight Center.

Price is \$10 per box of 25, the same as for the past several years.

Buyers may pick their cards up between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or have them shipped anywhere in the world for \$2 per order.

Imprinting of names or personal messages (maximum, two lines) is available at \$6 per selection.

The Sight Center carries on the purpose for which it was incorporated with the financial support of friends. If you would like to join others in that endeavor, a tax-deductible contribution in cash, stocks or bonds, real estate, jewelry or other assets, including life insurance policies that may no longer be needed for their original purpose, will be a great help.

Many people prefer to create a living memorial with a contribution in remembrance of a loved one.

Honor gifts are an excellent method for saluting a family member, friend, or colleague for nearly any special occasion: births, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, graduations, professional or academic achievement, or gratitude for the safe return of a loved one from danger.

You may also wish to make a provision in your will for the Sight Center. It is an excellent method for demonstrating your determination to take part in the long-range battle against blindness while assisting those who must currently cope with it. You should, of course, consult your attorney before drafting your will, or before revising an existing will.

Memorial Contributions

A permanent record is made of memorial contributions and other gifts to the Sight Center. Memorials are promptly acknowledged in accordance with the wishes of the contributor. The following is a list of memorials, gifts in honor of others, and bequests received by the Sight Center from March 1 through June 30, 1987.

- William Ames, by Mr. and Mrs. Byron Harris.
 Mildred Bauer, by Phyllis A. Damschroder.
 Anna Beach, by Mildred E. O'Brien.
 Noel Chitwood, Mr. and Mrs. John Kuhl.
 Ed Counts, Sr., by Mearl and June Huffman.
 Helen Crenz, by Patricia A. Williams.
 Frank DeAngelo, by Teresa Parachek.
 Dr. Dorothy Rose Dishar, by Emeline Anderson; Ruth Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Grimm; Pauline Heilmann; Mary Iverson; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Johnson; Mrs. Carrie Krohn; J. Thomas Mills; Mary D. Mills; Miss Alice Nicholson; Mrs. A. G. Speker; Maxine and Carl Swanson; Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Szabo; Edna VanFleet.
 Norman J. Fields, by Alma Fields.
 Mrs. Alfred Freiligh, by The Discussion Group.
 Ruby C. Freiligh, by Alice M. Champe.
 Leonard Friedel, by Jeep Unit, Local 12, UAW, Toledo.
 Ann Furnas, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen; The Sight Center Staff.
 Fran Gates, by Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Kasning.
 Dr. Donald Harrison, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
 Dolores Holdcraft, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
 Mrs. Rochelle Jbilian, by Dr. and Mrs. Louis C. Ravin.
 Jan Kos, Sr., by Pearl M. Duganiero.
 Robert Krauss, by Mrs. John O. Metzger.
 Anna Langenderfer, by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Babcock; Clarence Clifton; Rachel Colvin, Elmer Moenter, Glenn Moenter, and Herman Moenter; Mrs. Bessie Duquette and Max; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Garvin; Mr. and Mrs. James Gibson; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hade, and Mrs. William Hazel; Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Klotz; Mr. and Mrs. Gary Langenderfer; Leonard Langenderfer; Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen; Mr. and Mrs. E. Robert Quigg; Sol J. Wittenberg.
 Ida Lenney, by Mr. and Mrs. John Arvidson, Jr.
 Ferrace Longbrake, by Lise Suber; Mr. and Mrs. William Suber; Rodenberger Funeral Home, Inc.
 Gene Marcellin, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
 Opal Mast, by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bauman.
 Mariel McKeaver, by Mr. and Mrs. Peter M. Kasning.
 John O. Menne, Sr., by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Connell.
 Herbert Nielsen, by Hart Advertising, Inc.
 Garnet Zoe Patterson, by Al and Wanda McEwen; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Werner.
 William Patten, by Edith C. Patten.
 Archie Paulsen, by Life Members of the Telephone Pioneers of America.
 Gerald Pfeiffer, by Mr. and Mrs. James T. Perry.
 Elizabeth Phillips, by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Myers; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stahl.
 Emily Plath, by Mary Luning.
 Pearl Riendeau, by Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ammon; J. Robert Beauchamp, CPA; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Good; Hazel Lawrence; Mr. and Mrs. Edson McShane; Margaret M. Michels; Bridge Club, Maumee, OH; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Miller; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Rice; Velma A. Rice; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Richards; Ida Mae Sonntag and Eleanor Sonntag.
 E. Hugh Riffner, by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Reed.
 Weldon Robinson, by Vic Bellis and Paul Luetke; Warren H. Cottle; Miss Marian Girkins; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Goebel; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hursh; The James Kier Family; Mr. and Mrs. Lauren King; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Kurtz; Margaret L. Kurtz; Mrs. Elizabeth R. Milling and Family; Nicholas A. Nasta; Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson.
 The Robran Family, by Dorothy Robran.
 Florence Rowell, by Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Gates; Mr. and Mrs. John O. Metzger; Ruth Meyerholtz; Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Miller.
 Sylvia Schmidt, by Dan and Neish Schmidt.
 Duane M. Schroeder, by Mr. and Mrs. Alan Anthony; Ralph and Suzanne Buhlen; Clara Flick, Wesley and Ruth Flick; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hansen; Danny and Robin Hammer; Mrs. Tillie Harmon; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Herwart; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hoffman; Lucy and Al Kriener; Jim and Ann Mickey; Bob and Irene Paul; Frank and Donna Paul; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Paul; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Potts; Melvin and Norma Reif; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rice; Barbara Schroeder; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sonderberg and Family; Myron and Phyllis Teter; Mr. and Mrs. Mel Truman; Tom and Tina Wehner; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Weidner; Mr. and Mrs. Terry Weidner; Woodville Pro Bowling Team; Ray and Elaine Young.
 Therese Smith, by Nancy J. Brock.
 Dale Stroh, by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Reed.
 John H. Tattersall, by Audrey Tattersall.
 J. Russell Tracy, by Patricia Godlewski; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hite; Mr. and Mrs. William M. Locke, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Marietta; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Siska; Toledo Life Members of Telephone Pioneers of America; The Trustees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.
 Tom Watkins, by Danny and Lorie Bailey; Kenneth and Teresa Bailey; Mike and Mary Ann Bailey; Thomas Bailey; Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Crippen; Whitley and Shirley Crippen; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Giesner; Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Glinka; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mouch; Ron and Marcie Grathwol; and Helen Zientek; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hittman; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lemle and Son; Mrs. Francis Luning; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Luning; Lucia Roe and Family; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reed; Richard and Kathleen Wielinski.
 P. Arthur Wentz, by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Schmidt.
 Ralph Widney, by Barbara Halstead and Peggy Fowler.
 Robert Wisnoki, by Norma J. Garr; Mr. and Mrs. Dallas P. Hall; Mr. and Mrs. Harry F. Loehrke; Mr. and Mrs. William O. Lueck; Mr. and Mrs. William C. Lumm; Mrs. Jennie Nutt; John V. Woehner; Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Zink.
 Paul Zdrozky, by Susan Wood, McCord Gasket Corp.
- Gifts In Honor of**
- Special anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander, by Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Levey.
 Special Birthday of Mrs. Harry Bame, by Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Levey.
 Dr. Robert D. Kless, upon his receiving a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Medical Science, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
 Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. David Mostov, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis R. Basch.
 Mr. and Mrs. Ed Meyer, by Father Murphy.
 Special birthday of Mrs. Arnold Page, by Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Levey.
 Special birthday of Mrs. Robert Zimmerman, by Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Levey.
- Bequests**
- Clarence and Daisy Hickok Estate